

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 02349 231246Z

44

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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O 231233Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 319

S E C R E T CAIRO 2349

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR PFOR EG IS US

SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN E-1 STATION

REF: CAIRO 1833

1. FOR DEPT INFO, SITE E-1 WAS UP AND OPERATIONAL 2300 FEBRUARY 21, 1976.

2. DURING EIGHT-HOUR VISIT TO E-1 ON FEBRUARY 22 BY MG GAMAL EL-SAYED AND SENIOR US TEAM MEMBERS, U.S. TEAM NOTED NUMBER OF ITEMS REMAIN TO BE ACCOMPLISHED TOGETHER WITH NORMAL HOUSEKEEPING TASKS, NONE OF WHICH MARKEDLY AFFECT THE CAPABILITY OF THE SITE'S TECHNICAL FUNCTIONS. ACCORDING TO MG GAMAL, DATA FROM THE SITE WILL BE ENTERED INTO THE EGYPTIAN EW SYSTEM BY FEBRUARY 23 OR THE 24TH AT THE LATEST.

3. MG MAGDUB AND HIS PARTY VISITED E-1 SITE FOR SEVERAL HOURS ON THE 22ND AND WERE APPARENTLY SATISFIED AND IMPRESSED WITH WHAT THEY SAW.

4. MG GAMAL AND HIS STAFF, ALONG WITH MEMBERS OF THE U.S. TEAM, CONDUCTED AN ON-THE-SPOT RECONNAISSANCE OF THE RUGGED ONE-KILOMETER NORTHERN BOUNDARY OF SITE E-1 INCLUDING HILLS 693 AND THAT PORTION OF 717 WHICH WAS RECENTLY INCLUDED IN THE RECENT

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 CAIRO 02349 231246Z

BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT. THE PARTY WAS JOINTED DURING

THE RECONNAISSANCE BY A UNEF NORWEGIAN MAJOR AND HIS AIDE. PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT OF THE 717 PORTION, NOTED ABOVE (INFORMALLY ASSIGNED THE DESIGNATION OF 710 BY GAMAL) IS THAT IT COULD SUPPORT A RADAR POSITION FOR SITE E-1, WITH FINAL DETERMINATION OF ITS RELATIVE VALUE TO THAT OF 693 AS A RADAR LOCATION TO BE DETERMINED LATER BY HEADQUARTERS EXPERTS.

5. MEMBERS OF THE U.S. TEAM PRESENTLY AT E-1 WILL BE RETURNING TO CAIRO AS THEIR RESPECTIVE PORTIONS OF THE WORK ON SITE ARE COMPLETED, WITH ALL U.S. GOVERNMENT OFF THE SITE NOT LATER THAN FEBRUARY 29 (BARRING UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH MIGHT AFFECT THE OPERATION OF THE SITE'S EQUIPMENT).

6. IN SUMMARY, THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS MET ITS COMMITMENT AND OPERATING SCHEDULE FOR PHASE ONE TO THE EGYPTIANS. MUCH REMAINS TO BE DONE, HOWEVER, TO TURN THE SITE INTO A WELL-MANAGED, LONG-TERM EGYPTIAN EQ INSTALLATION.
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Message Attributes

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